2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Delaware Water Gap Borough
P.O. Box 218
Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327
PWSID# 2450022

Este informe contiene informacion muy imprtante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con
Alguien que lo entienda bien.

We're pleased to present to you our **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for water quality in 2020.** This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water is drawn from three ground water wells. Our water is disinfected with chlorine and poly phosphate. Water from our wells is tested on a regular basis. The water system is operated by state Certified Water Plant Operator (Mr. Craig LaBarre).

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Delaware Water Gap Borough at 570-476-0331.** We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Delaware Water Gap routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1st to December 31st, 2020.** Some of the water samples were actually collected prior to **2020** but are the most recent data, which is available. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. This table lists all of the tests, which we performed which had detectable levels, violations of an MCL or AL, or are of particular interest (see the following list for a definition of MCL and AL). The following is a list of all the testing which has been performed: Total Coliform Bacteria, Inorganic Chemicals (14 elements), Volatile Organic Chemicals (21 compounds), Gross Alpha Activity, Nitrates, nitrites, Lead, Copper, TTHM, HAA5.
In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Definitions:
Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (MG/l) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $ 10,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The "Goal" (**MCLG**) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):

TEST RESULTS

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	0	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/l)	N	0.0	0.0	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	N	0.0	0.0	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/l)	N	0.0	0.0	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic (PPB)	N	0.003 5/17/2018	0	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronic production wastes.
Copper (ppm)	N	0.259	0.011 – 0.206 (b)	1.3	Al=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of national deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	N	0.003	0.000 – 0.005 (a)	0.015	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) Location 104 Location 167	N	0 4/20/20 6/16/20	0.000	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm) Location 104 Location 167	N	5/17/2018 0.052 0.065	 0 - 0.065	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MRLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Dichloromethane (ppb)	N	ND	ND	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories

Disinfectants

	Violation Y/N	Lowest Level Detected	Range	MRLG	MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) Location 104 Location 167	N	2020 0.80 0.80	 0.80 – 2.20 0.80 – 2.20	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Footnotes:

(a) None of the five water samples collected exceeded the Lead Action Level collected in 2019.

(b) None of the five water samples collected exceeded the Copper Action Level collected in 2019.

Definitions:

Total Coliform: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially – harmful, bacteria may be present. If Coliforms are found in more samples than allowed it would indicate that potential problems may exist.
Fecal coliform/E. Coli: Fecal coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
Radioactive Contaminants:
Beta/photon emitters: Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta and photon emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Alpha emitters: Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Combined Radium 226/228: Some people who drink water containing radium 226or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.
Lead: Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Nitrate.: Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Barium: Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.
Nitrite: Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
TTHMs/Total Trihalomethanes: Some people who drink water containing trihalomehanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Arsenic: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Dichloromethane: Some people who drink water containing dichloromethane in excess of the MCL over many years could have liver problems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What does this mean?
The table shows that our system passes all of the water quality standards. We have listed below additional information, which we feel may be of value to you.

Total Coliform: Water quality testing for Total Coliform bacteria was performed during this period and test results indicated the water passes the Total Coliform Standards for Drinking Water. Total Coliform bacteria are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Fecal coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.
Lead: Water samples were collected in 2019. Infants and children who drink water, which contains lead in excess of the action level, could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water, which contains Lead over many years, could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Corrosive water leaches Lead and/or Copper into the water supply from the plumbing in your houses. We **recommend that all consumers flush the water tap for a few minutes prior to drinking the water.** This technique is recommended only if the water has been standing still in the pipes for several hours. **Infants and**

young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).
Nitrates: Our water supply was tested for nitrates and test results indicate the levels to be far below the MCL for drinking water. As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

Educational Information
All sources if drinking water is subject to potential contamination by naturally occurring or man made pollutants. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Hotline**
(800-426-4791).

Total Coliform bacteria are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other; potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. **Fecal coliforms and E. Coli** are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these waste can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Infants and children who drink water, which contains lead in excess of the action level, could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Corrosive water leaches Lead and/or Copper into the water supply from the plumbing in your houses. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. We also recommend flushing your tap for 20 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

Some people who drink water containing Dichloromethane in excess of the MCL over many years could have liver problems and many have an increased risk of getting cancer.

EPA has revised the drinking water standard for **Arsenic.** New regulations are in effect as of January 1 2008. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels **above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants** of less than
Six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your healthcare provider.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.

We at **Delaware Water Gap Borough** work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way to life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have any questions.